

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, October 17, 2018 – 5:30 pm

Montague Town Hall
First Floor Meeting Room
Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

Present: Al Cummings, Chair, Christopher Boutwell, and Michael Nelson

Staff: Gina McNeely

Minutes: September 19, 2018.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the September 19, 2018 Minutes. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Director's Report: July, August and September 2018.

September 2018 Highlights:

- 22 West Main Street is one step closer to being in receivership after some correspondence with Kara Cuhna, Assistant Attorney General. The property has been bought by Bayview Loan Servicing at an auction. Attorney Cuhna has made provisions that the sale of 22 West Main St must be approved by the Housing Court so we can make sure the buyer has the resources to complete the rehabilitation of this property. A court date has been scheduled for November 16, 2018.
- 20.5 G Street and 97 Second Street (currently abandoned) after Chris Rice, Chief Zellmann, Attorney Cunha and Gina inspected the exteriors of 97 Second St and 20.5 G Street. Gina has written orders to correct for which will assist Attorney Cunha in moving forward with rehabilitation of these abandoned properties.
- Michael Nelson inquired about the warehouse at 138 Second Street owned Tim DeChristopher; there are concerns regarding the windows and the condition of or lack of a roof at this location. At one time this property was considered for receivership, but since it was never a residence it is not available for the program. Gina will take a look at it to see what the situation is at this time.
- 9 Hillside Road is in the process of getting a new septic system once an installer is identified for the property.
- 274 Old Greenfield Road, property owner Susan Lowery called quite upset because she is selling the home and got a failed Title 5 report from Greg's Waste Water. The septic tank and D-box are both almost completely corroded at this time. The entire septic system was replaced in 2011, it is unheard of that these cement components would completely fail so quickly. In a case like this the first thought is that backwash from a residential water treatment system must be emptying into the septic tank but this is not the case. The house has a water treatment system but its backwash is emptied to a drywell in the back yard. Gina called and spoke to Philip Pasiernik the inspector from Greg's who did the inspection and he said he has never seen anything like this before. We have seen other septic tanks fail on this street. Gina wonders if the hydrology and geology in the area is impacting the tanks, however, that begs the question of why the foundations haven't failed, and this remains a mystery.

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- After working with Dan Hunt, owner of The Whistle Stop Café for almost a year the café is now opened in Millers Falls, MA.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the Director's Report for September 2018. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

August 2018 Highlights:

- 86 East Chestnut Hill Road, property owners, Woodie and Sarah Bliss applied to put an Accessory Apartment in their home. The septic system is not designed for a two family home and is quite old. The Bliss's hired Kathie Bridges and Paul Styspeck to upgrade the system. Due to various complications the Bliss's decided not to move forward with the Accessory Apartment.
- The first RPM event held in Montague at the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club off Turners Falls Road, the same location as Mutton and Mead. It was a weekend music event with camping and food vendors where food inspections were done by Montague Board of Health.
- 8 West Chestnut Hill Road there was a largely incorrect and shoddy title 5 inspection report submitted by Dan Gray of A-I Sanitary. Gina spoke to the new owner, Chris Pinardi and he did not seem to care about the erroneous report. Gina did copy DEP on her letter to Dan Gray.
- Burial Permits - Jack Davis, owner of McCarthy Funeral Homes regarding the unusual request for a second burial permit from the Board of Health when a cremains are interred in a Catholic Cemetery. This is worth explaining because it is confusing. Now that the BOH issues electronic burial permits using the State's Electronic Vitals Information Partnership, once the electronic burial permit is issued that is it; the system doesn't allow a second permit to be issued (at least that anyone is aware of). When a body is cremated the State views that as the final disposition of the body and the terms of the burial permit have been satisfied. However, Mr. Davis explained that our Catholic Cemeteries require a burial permit to bury cremains, since the original permit was "used up" when the body was cremated and the body has technically reached its final disposition (ashes). In these rare cases, a new paper permit can be issued solely for burying cremains, if the cemetery requires one.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the Director's Report for August 2018. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

July 2018 Highlights:

- Still working with Citizen Serve to get the process running for permits.
- All other items covered in the following month's Director's Reports.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the Director's Report for July 2018. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Health Inspector's Report: July and September 2018.

September Highlights:

- Whistle Stop Café is now open
- Red Fire North has completed all permitting and is having a grand opening soon.
- 91 Fourth Street: Ed Wilcox visited and called the office several times regarding the bedbug situation at his building, it was decided to hire Abateman Exterminating from Putney Vermont to evaluate and treat the situation at 91 Fourth Street TF, he indicated he will spend the extra money and have the building heat treated and chemically treated
- 188 Millers Falls Road TF has been boarded and secured due to it being perpetually in serious disarray, non habitable disarray- Property owner Florence W Brostek is not residing at the property and her Conservator has been appointed, David R. There is now a person who has come forward and is interested in buying the property who has cleaned out the interior while also stripping the outside of the house to expose cedar clapboards.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the Health Inspectors Report for September 2018. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

July Highlights:

- Carroll's Market reinspection done with the place looking good and could get busy due to the center of Millers Falls being revitalized.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the Health Inspectors Report for July 2018. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Nominate Gina McNeely as Alternate Animal Inspector.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to nominate Gina McNeely as Alternate Animal Inspector. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Discussion regarding microblading, micropigmentation and other semi-permanent tattoos.

- There is some interest in the town to do this. Gina gave a handout of draft regulations for the BOH to review. Information was also looked at from the Boston Public Health Commissions information on these topics. The challenge for this is those folks that own cosmetology shops where waxing and eyebrow threading takes place want to move into this field. The state originally said that micropigmentation could not take place in licensed cosmetology establishments; but now the state is saying that one can have the process in your shop if it is a separate space, and the local Board of Health inspects and licenses the "tattoo" portion of the shop.

Discussion regarding hiring a new Health Inspector:

- Gina asked the board if any of the members would like to be on the hiring committee. Al Cummings, Board Chair expressed interest in being on the committee along with Steve Ellis, Town Administrator and Gina McNeely, Health Director.

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- Christopher Boutwell reviewed the job description and noted that there were more skills/qualifications needed than the previous posting for health inspector. Gina McNeely stated that she pulled the description from the previous Health Inspector posting; which brought us Carolyn Merriam RN who was our Health Inspector/Town Nurse prior to Kathern Pierce. Gina McNeely also shared that she is hoping that the next candidate comes with a solid skill base so that they can fill her position when she retires in the future.
- Michael Nelson asked if some wording in the job posting could be changed to say the ideal applicant would have and or be able to get certified within a certain time frame. Gina McNeely also suggested that you have to be a Registered Sanitarian to approve plans which means you need to have a Bachelor's Degree in Public or Environmental Health or Biology. Gina McNeely will reword the job posting and email the Board and repost it in house first.

Topics Not Anticipated:

- **42-44 Canal Street, Turners Falls. MA**
This is the future location of a Wild Child Cidery. Wendy Bogusz gave an email to Gina regarding this anticipated establishment. At this point, Gina has not been brought into the discussions regarding where the Town is at this point on the Cidery. The Montague BOH and the Building Department needs to be involved regarding this between the size of the septic system and the proposed plans at this location.
- **Town Nurse**
Christopher Boutwell would like to have a discussion at the next BOH meeting regarding a Town Nurse position.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to adjourn the Montague Board of Health meeting at 6:11 PM. Seconded by Al Cummings. **Motion passes.**

Meeting adjourned: 6:11 PM

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

List of documents used at this meeting:

- September Minutes
- Directors Report
- Health Inspector Report